



The Palette

September 2026

The Newsletter of
The Williamsville Art Society

President's Letter

Welcome back !

By now you should have received your membership forms for the 2026-2027 season, and prospectus and entry forms for the 2026 holiday show. Read them carefully and get them in on time!

The officers and board members have been very busy over the summer break. I'd like to thank everyone for their participation, input and volunteering.

A significant challenge has been determining how to compensate for the funds we lost when the Town of Amherst, in accordance with the rules imposed on the Amherst Senior Center, revoked our ability to conduct auctions. We decided that for the holiday show, we would continue selling our chocolate bars, the 5x7 paintings, cards, 2x3 paintings and we are adding Christmas ornaments painted or decorated by our artists. Blank ornaments will be provided to our artists at the September meeting. You can also provide your own ornament. Please decorate these and return them at the October meeting or at drop off. They will be displayed for sale on a Christmas tree at our holiday reception. If you take an ornament and do not return it, you will be charged the cost of the ornament. So get your mind turning, think of which of these items you can donate to our merchandise table and start your engines!

The volunteer sheet for the show will be available at both the September and October meetings. I'm hoping each of you can volunteer for at least one spot. The volunteer sheet must be signed by you in order to secure your choice of spot and time. After the October meeting, we will start to make phone calls to fill in any blanks.

You may notice some familiar faces returning to the group. A membership drive was conducted over the summer by contacting any members that have left the group since our 2019 roster.

Many showed excitement to get back into the group and to have their artwork displayed at our shows again!

Our board is working on the sub committees that I mentioned at the end of last year. We're hoping to attract more new members, to find places in the community that will allow us to display our artwork and also expand publicity opportunities for both the organization and our shows. If any of these interest you...give a holler!

Our first meeting of the season will be September 18 at the Honorable Shirley Chisholm library in Amherst. It is the third Friday in September due to the fact that the library was booked on our normal date.

"It takes a village...or a great organization...such as us!" Cathy Eckman

Officers for 2026 - 2027			
President	Cathy Eckman	(716) 433-7825	pypers2@msn.com
First Vice President	Joann Jarmusz	(716) 565-3332	jajarmusz31@gmail.com
Second Vice President	Michael Todd Taylor	(716) 906-1793	miketaylor425@gmail.com
Secretary	Mary Schohn	(716) 228-8511	mschohn@gmail.com
Treasurer	Beverly Amborski	(716) 291-9219	bamborski@roadrunner.com

Board Members		
Term ending September 2027		
Judie Pufpaff	(716) 689-2485	judiepufpaff@gmail.com
Elaine LaVigne	(716) 713-7907	marth88679@aol.com
Sharon Dzierba	(716) 428-3018	sharondz2397@gmail.com
Term ending September 2028		
Paulette Crooke	(716) 225-4737	paulette.m.crooke@gmail.com
Marilyn Drnevich	(716) 741-3886	marilyndrnevich@verizon.net
Barbara Deren	(716) 984-3569	bderen98@gmail.com
Term ending September 2029		
Marie Prince	(716) 634-7015	artmprince@yahoo.com
Mary Beth Orrange	(716) 868-5534	orrangembo@gmail.com
Deb Meier	(716) 316-1029	pleinpaletteart@gmail.com

Committee Chairs*

Publicity: This committee seeks out and follows through on advertising for our Spring and Holiday shows. For example, community news on local TV and radio stations, free publications, etc.

Mary Schohn	(716) 228-8511	mschohn@gmail.com
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Community Outreach: This committee reaches out to schools, classes, and art stores to inform and invite others into our group, sharing upcoming demonstrations and place and date of upcoming meetings.

Beverly Amborski	(716) 291-9219	bamborski@roadrunner.com
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Exhibits: This committee seeks out places such as town halls, hospitals, restaurants, medical offices, etc. that are accepting artists to display their work

Sharon Dzierba	(716) 428-3018	sharondz2397@gmail.com
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Hospitality: This committee provides snacks for each meeting of the Williamsville Art Society

Mary Beth Orrange	(716) 868-5534	orranagembo@gmail.com
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* If you are interested in an opportunity to serve on any of these committees, please contact the chairperson of the committee that you're interested in. More hands make lighter work.

Hospitality Team

The hospitality team provides snacks for each meeting of the Williamsville Art Society. Our sincerest thanks go to the 2025-26 team: Mary Schohn, Cathy LaPenna, Sue Lindell, Michael Taylor, Barbara Brown, Barbara Deren, Jo Ann Jarmusz, Judie Pufpaff, and Mary Beth Orrange. If you are interested in helping out at the September meeting, or any other meeting date, contact hospitality chair, Mary Beth Orrange (orranagembo@gmail.com).

September Demonstration

Our September demonstrator will be the folks from Lenzart, located on Hertel Avenue in Buffalo, NY. Lenzart is more than a photography service. They have a full round of services for artists as well. Start at the beginning, with their copy, scan and reproduction services available for all types of fine art originals. They also offer design services at the lab if you have need for marketing and promotional help. From business cards, postcards, and brochures, to sell sheets, greeting cards, and more, they want to help artists get the word out about their creations. Check out their website at www.lenzart.com.

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings are at the Honorable Shirley Chisholm Library, located at 350 John James Audubon Parkway, Amherst, NY, with a start time of 6:30pm.

Friday, September 18: A representative from Lenzart will talk about services that they provide for artists.

Friday, October 9: Laura Kemler, an art educator and children's book illustrator, will be demonstrating water media.

Friday, November 20: Teresa Mandifrida will show us her acrylic pouring techniques.

December: No meeting

Spring Show Financial Report

Income

Entries.....	\$2000.00
Art and candy sales.....	\$1173.86
TOTAL.....	\$3173.86

Expenses

Judge.....	\$200.00
Music.....	\$150.00
Awards.....	\$1050.00
KAX (Printing).....	\$288.14
Photocopy Fees.....	\$6.14
Table Rental.....	\$45.00
Deb Meier (Tape, cellophane bags).....	\$38.23
Bev Amborski (2 x 3 paper).....	\$30.95
TOTAL.....	\$1808.46

Net Profit.....	\$1365.40
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From the Exhibition Chair

Greetings from your Exhibition Chair. I have a few important pointers for our membership.

Preparing your artwork for hanging:

1) Do use D-rings! Screw eyes, no matter how carefully you put them in, have a slight chance of failing. I've seen these fail on more than one occasion, including my own work. A failed screw eye means art on the floor. Placement of the d-rings is 1/3 to 1/4 down from the top of the piece. The thicker the frame, the closer you should be to 1/4 of the way down.

2) Please use braided picture hanging wire. Not nylon, not single strand, not floral or craft wire. The aforementioned wires stretch with weight placed upon them, leading to breakage and art on the floor.

3) Please properly attach and wind the wire to the d-rings. Attached to the Palette is a sheet that shows how to knot the wire to the back. There should be ample space for the hanging bracket between the

winding on either side. If the bracket has to fit over wound wire, the hanging is not secure, and could result in (you guessed it) artwork on the floor.

4) Weight - We have a 15 pound weight limit. Those who like to work large, be aware of this limitation. Those who have to have their artwork behind glazing might want to consider plexiglass instead of glass, as glass is heavy. Our hanging system is not designed to support heavy pieces, so trying to go over the weight limit might result in....artwork on the floor!

Our Sales table:

In addition to 5x7's and cards, we will be offering hand-decorated Christmas bulbs and ornaments. Want to get a freebie to decorate? Attend the September meeting, grab an ornament, bring it back next month after you've decorated it.

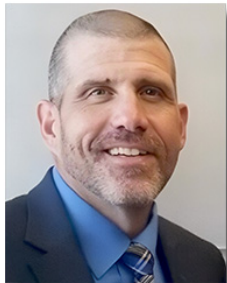
Hot Tip: Coat the inside of the bulb with diluted white acrylic, swirling it around to coat the inside, so your artwork on the outside really pops! If using alcohol inks, be sure to use a spray fixative afterwards.

Yours in Art,

Deb Meier

Our Sponsor

Whenever you have need of financial services, please consider reaching out to Roger Malcolm of KDM Wealth Consultants, LLC. Roger graciously paid the \$750 facility fee for our Spring 2026 Show. Thank you, Roger!



Roger Malcolm

*President/CEO
KDM Wealth Consultants LLC.*

*Financial Planner**



Futurity First Insurance Group

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From the Editor

Thank you to all the officers, board members, and committee chairs who funneled information to me for this month's Palette. All members are welcome to submit information or articles to include in the Palette.

Items are generally due the 25th of the month preceding the month in which they will be published. Send items to dianelorenzi@gmail.com

Artist Open House

Kelsey Merkle has judged WAS shows as well as demonstrated at our meetings in the past. She will be having an art open house on Sunday, September 13 from 11am to 5pm. The location is 6122 Railroad Street in Clarence Center. You may park in the street or the parking lot at Clarence Center Bike Path.

Attachments

- 2026 Membership Form
- 2026 Holiday Show Prospectus Form
- 2026 Holiday Show Entry Form
- President's Welcome Letter
- 2026 Holiday Show Postcard
- May 2026 Minutes
- How to Wire Artwork for Hanging